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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20554 JAN 0 9 2004

OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Brooke Temple
Vice President
World Television of Washington, LLC
4164 Guide Meridian
Suite 102
Bellingham, WA 98226

Re: Request for Reduction of Fiscal Year 2003 Regulatory Fees
World Television of Washington, LLC
KBCB(TV), Bellingham, Washington
Fee Control No. 00000RROG-03-103

# Dear Mr. Temple:

This is in response to your September 23, 2003 request filed on behalf of World Television of Washington, LLC (WTW), licensee of KBCB(TV), Bellingham, Washington, for a partial refund of the fiscal year (FY) 2003 regulatory fees. You request a refund reflecting the difference between the regulatory fee that Station KBCB(TV) paid for FY 2003 (i.e., \$12,875.00) and the amount charged to UHF televisions stations in the remaining market category (i.e., markets 101 and above) under section 1.1153 of the Commission's rules (i.e., \$12,875.00 minus \$1,425.00 equals \$11,450.00).

In your request, you state that KBCB(TV)'s signal "cannot be received over-the-air in either Seattle or Tacoma" and that the station's "Grade B service area can only be received by 274,580 people within the Seattle-Tacoma DMA." You state that because there are only 107,678 television households in KBCB(TV)'s Grade B service area, the station "is effectively serving a market equivalent to DMA market size number 167 (which is currently Utica, New York)." You also state that KBCB(TV) is not a network affiliate.

For purposes of the FY 2000 regulatory fee, the Office of Managing Director (OMD) found that because KBCB(TV) is not a network affiliate, is located outside the Seattle-Tacoma, Washington metropolitan area, and its Grade B signal (encompassing 79,600 television households) does not serve a substantial portion of the Seattle-Tacoma, Washington metropolitan area (citing the 2000 Television & Cable Factbook), KBCB(TV) should be treated as a remaining market station for purposes of its regulatory

fee assessment.<sup>1</sup> For purposes of the FY 2001 regulatory fee, OMD found that circumstances had not changed since the *Letter Decision* so as to affect KBCB(TV)'s qualification for a regulatory fee reduction. OMD therefore found that KBCB(TV) should be treated as a remaining market station for purposes of its FY 2001 regulatory fee assessment.

In light of your statements, we find that it appears that circumstances have not changed so as to affect KBCB(TV)'s qualification for a regulatory fee reduction. We therefore find that KBCB(TV) should be treated as a remaining market station for purposes of its FY 2003 regulatory fee assessment. We note that WTW is under a continuing obligation to report to the Commission any circumstances that could affect KBCB(TV)'s qualification for regulatory fee reduction, including service area or population coverage data.

In light of the analysis set forth above, WTW's request for partial reduction of the regulatory fee for FY 2003 is granted and the excessive amount will be refunded. A check made payable to the maker of the original check and drawn in the amount of \$11,450.00 will be provided at the earliest practicable time. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please call the Revenue & Receivables Operations Group at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Reger

Chief Financial Officer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Letter from Mark Reger, Chief Financial Officer, OMD, FCC to Elizabeth E. Goldin, Wiley, Rein & Fielding (dated Feb. 8, 2001) (noting that WTW is under a continuing obligation to report to the Commission any circumstances that could affect KBCB(TV)'s qualification for regulatory fee reduction) (Letter Decision).

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September 23, 2003 IOCOUNT PROCESSING IACUS-OST/RPT/TMT

Office of the Managing Director
Attn: Regulatory Fee Waiver/Reduction Request
Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.
Room 1-A625
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FCC - MAILROOM

Re: Request for Reduction in Regulatory Fees

World Television of Washington, LLC

KBCB, Channel 24, Bellingham, Washington

Dear Office of the Managing Director:

As it has over the past few years, World Television of Washington, LLC ("WTW"), licensee of KBCB, Channel 24 at Bellingham, Washington, hereby requests a reduction in its regulatory fees pursuant to "FY 2000 Mass Media Regulatory Fees," Public Notice 20318, August 2, 2000.

The Seattle-Tacoma Designated Market Area ("DMA") is a Top 25 DMA and stations in this market are required to pay \$12,875 as their annual regulatory fee. The Seattle-Tacoma DMA includes 4,338,000 persons (BIA's Television Market Report 2003).

In the Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act, Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for the 1994 Fiscal Year, the Commission concluded that stations that "lack network affiliations, and are located outside of the principle city's metropolitan area and do not provide a grade B signal to a substantial portion of the market's metropolitan areas . . . will be assessed a fee based on the number of television households served, and will be charged the same fee as stations serving markets with the same number of television households." 10 FCC Red 12759 (1995), paras. 21-22.

KBCB is licensed to Bellingham, Washington, which is in the far northern end of the Seattle-Tacoma DMA. Due to this location, the KBCB signal cannot be received overthe-air in either Seattle or Tacoma. In fact, as illustrated in the attached map of KBCB's Grade B contour, KBCB's Grade B service area can only be received by 274,580 people

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bringing the world home

within the Seattle-Tacoma DMA. <u>Attachment A</u>. In other words, the KBCB over-the-air signal reaches a mere 6% of the Seattle-Tacoma DMA populace.

Additionally, KBCB is not a network affiliate. KBCB is predominately a foreign language broadcaster.

Accordingly, WTW believes that circumstances dictate that the KBCB regulatory fees be adjusted in accordance with the Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act, Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for the 1994 Fiscal Year, 10 FCC Rcd 12759 (1995), paras. 21-22. As there are 2.55 persons per television household within the Seattle-Tacoma DMA and 107,678 television households within the Grade B service area of KBCB, the Licensee is effectively serving a market equivalent to DMA market size number 167 (which is currently Utica, New York). See BIA's Television Market Report 2003 and Attachment A. Stations in markets 100 and higher pay a regulatory fee of \$1,425, which is \$11,450 more than what WTW paid this year.

We therefore request a refund of \$11,450.

Sincerely,

Brooke Temple

Vice President

World Television of Washington, LLC

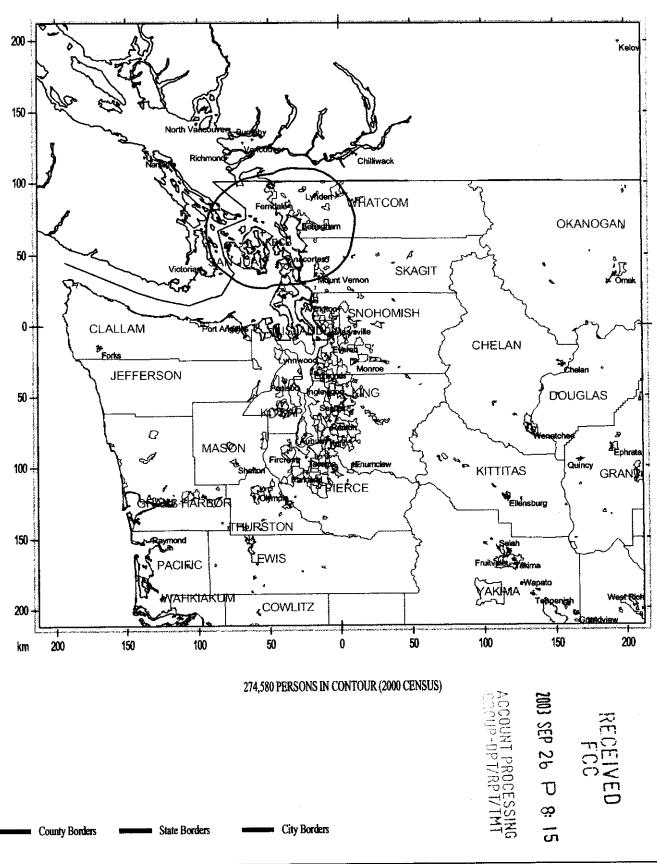
Attachment

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ACCOUNT PROCESSING

ATTACHMENT A

### KBCB CHANNEL 24 BELLINGHAM WA LICENSED 43.7 KW GRADE B COVERAGE



AR012-A 12/09/2003 14:39:12

# RAMIS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - (c) DSG, Inc. RECEIPTS DETAIL REPORT SORTED BY TRANSACTION DATE, CD No., FEE CONTROL No.

PAGE 1 12/09/2003 14:39:12

TRANSACTION

CD No.	CD DATE	FEE CONTROL	. No.	FRN	PAYER NAME	É		DATE	RECEIPT AMOUNT
560812	9/25/03	03092588354	90005	0003768876	Venture	Technologies	Group, LL	9/24/03	\$12,885.00
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FCC Fee Filer Page 1 of 1



Payer: Venture Technologies Group, LLC (Log Out)

Fee filer Home | Help

## **Fee Filer Home**

Number of rows to display: 6 50 6 100 6 200

2 record(s) found for Batch #5 (World Television of Washington, LLC)



2 Y













Edit World Television of Washington



Search by Call Sign:



Quantity Fee Number OK? Call Sign PTC

**Amount** 

FCC Code 1 FCC Code 2

**KBCB** WPNJ372

0360 1 0369 1

12875.000000 \$12,875.00

10.000000

\$10.00

Quantity Remittance Amount

Total

\$12,885.00

Grand Total 2

\$12,885.00

Now displaying records 1 to 2 of 2 for "World Television of Washington".

EXPORT DATA

**Customer Service** 

Frequently Asked **Questions** 

**FCC Fees** 

**Privacy Statement** 

FCC Home Page

Help

CORES Help Line: (877) 480-3201 (Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6:00 p.m. ET)

CORES has a dedicated staff of customer service representatives standing by to answer your questions or concerns. You can email us at CORES@fcc.gov.



#### Non-Public For Internal Use Only

Page 1 of 1 Monday, November 17, 2003 03:17 PM

## RAMIS ACCOUNT RECEIVABLES

## **Check Number Query Report**

FEE Control Number: 0309258835490005

Customer FRN

: 0003768876

FRN Name

: Venture Technologies Group, LLC

Check Number

: 007779000000

Receipt Amount

: \$12,885.00

Date Received: 09/24/2003

10/16/2003

Venture Technologies Grees



# FAX COVER SHEET

TO: 10m Putham						
COMPANY: FCC						
FAX NUMBER: (202)418-2843						
DATE: 10/16/03 TIME: 11:30 AM PM PACIFIC TIME						
NUMBER OF PAGES <u>INCLUDING</u> COVER SHEET: 5						
FROM: Brooke Temple						
MESSAGE: Here is the information you requested for KBCB.						
Any questions or concerns, please call (323) 904-4093.						

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICALBE LAW. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that any dissemination, distribution, copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us by telephone (collect) and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Postal service. Thank you. IF THIS FAX IS INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE, PLEASE REQUEST A RESEND AT (323)-965-5400

READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING

14:06

# PEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REMITTANCE ADVICE

Approved by OMB 3046-0509

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CERTIFICATION STATEMENT	SECTION	D-CERTIFICATION									
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SIGNATURE DATE											
SECTION E-CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION											
MASTERCARDVISA AMEX DISCOVER											
ACCOUNT NUMBER EXPIRATION DATE											
I hursby authorise the FCC to charge my credit card for the service(a) authorization herein described.											
SIGNATURE			DATE								
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